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PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR SHADE TREES

PREPARING THE PLANTING SITE AND PLANTING THE TREE



Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can spread without crowding. Remove any grass within a three-foot circular area.



Plant the tree the same depth as it stood in the nursery without crowding the roots. Partially fill hole and pack the soil firmly around lower roots. Do not add soil amendments, especially peat or bark.



Shove in the remaining soil and pack firmly with heel. Water the tree thoroughly so that all air pockets are removed (when bubbling stops).

CARE AFTER PLANTING

1. **STAKE THE TREE** using a 2 x 2 placed next to the tree with a piece of loosely tied twine. This will protect the tree from wind damage and mower damage. Stake should remain in place until the tree is well established (2 years).
2. Cover the planting area with mulch (such as pine bark, leaves, pine straw or compost) to control grass and to conserve moisture.
3. Water the tree thoroughly once a week when there is no rainfall.
4. Prevent mechanical damage, especially from mowers.

PLACES TO AVOID WHEN PLANTING TREES

1. Under power or telephone lines (plant trees at least 50 feet from overhead lines).
2. Close to a house or building — may damage siding, clog gutters or loosen roofing.
3. Close to sidewalks (driveways)—roots may cause them to lift and break. Allow a minimum of 10 feet from these objects.
4. Close to sewer lines—shallow rooted trees will often clog sewers, causing damage and costly repairs.
5. Close to home foundations—allow a minimum of 30 feet from foundations.

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